

extends I cannot positively say; but there is a specimen in the Cambridge Museum sent by Mr. Blyth and stated to have been obtained in "India;" but no precise locality is given. All the other specimens from India and Baluchistan are referable to *L. platyrhyncha*. I may add that there is a specimen of *L. sibirica* in full summer dress, from Siberia, in the Cambridge Museum.

9. On a new Species of *Tetraogallus*.

By H. E. DRESSER, F.Z.S.

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Mr. Charles Danford, who has just returned from the Taurus mountains with a rich collection of mammals and birds, has brought a fine series of specimens of a Snow-Partridge, which he has requested me to compare and determine. As I find it is as yet undescribed, and quite distinct from any known species, I propose to give it the name suggested by him of *TETRAOGALLUS TAURICUS*, as the Taurus range appears to be its true habitat.

Though allied to *Tetraogallus caucasicus*, this species is very easily distinguishable from that bird, not only by its coloration, as will be seen by the detailed description, but also by its much larger size. The following is the description of a pair selected from the series.

♀ *adulta pileo sordide cinereo-cano vix cervino tincto, versus nucham cervino cinereo; collo postico et dorso antico cervino-cinereis; corpore supra reliquo sicut in Tetraogallo caucastico picturato, sed pallide cervino cinereo nec saturate cinereo; alis sicut in T. caspio, sed tectricibus majoribus magis cæruleis et ad basin minus vermiculatis; cauda sicut in T. caucastico, sed pallidiore; fronte, stria superciliari, capitis lateribus et gula cervino-albis; regione suboculari pallide cano, et stria magna in colli lateribus utrinque saturate cana; gutture et pectore superiore cinereo-canis, pluris cinereo-cervino terminatis et nigro guttatis; pectore reliquo cinereo-cervino griseo-nigro vermiculato, plumis omnibus ad basin cæruleo-canis; abdomine centrali schistaceo-fuliginoso; crisso sordide cervino, subcaudalibus cervino-albis; hypochondriis cæruleo-canis, utrinque castaneo striatis et nigro marginatis, plumis nonnullis in parte suprema vermiculatis, et plumis in parte ima cinereo-cervinis nigro-cinereo vermiculatis et cervino-castaneo marginatis; rostro flavido ad basin pallidiore, naribus rufo-aurantiacis; plaga nuda circum et infra oculos læte flava; pedibus læte rufo-aurantiacis, unguibus saturate corneis: iride fusca.*

♀ *minor et sordidior; pileo vix cervino et saturate griseo notato; stria in colli lateribus et gutture antico nigro notatis, hoc griseo vermiculato; plaga nuda oculuri minore; rostro et pedibus sicut in mare, sed paulo sordidioribus.*

Adult Male (Koroskeui, Taurus, 15th April, 1876). Crown dull ashy blue, with a buff tinge gradually merging into ashy buff, this latter colour pervading the hind neck and fore part of the back:

rest of the upper parts as in *Tetraogallus caucasicus*; but instead of the general tinge of colour being clear dark grey, it is lighter buffy grey; wings as in *Tetraogallus caspius*, but the larger wing-coverts are rather bluer and less vermiculated on the basal portion; tail as in *Tetraogallus caucasicus*, but rather paler; forehead, a streak over the eye, sides of head and neck creamy white, the portion below the eye pale blue-grey, connected with which is a dull darker blue-grey broad stripe down the side of the neck; entire lower throat and upper breast blue grey, the feathers tipped with ashy buff, this band on the sides of the neck becoming ashy buff and merging into the hind neck; fore part of the band irregularly but boldly spotted with black; rest of the breast to the abdomen ashy buff finely vermiculated with blackish grey, all the feathers dove blue on the concealed basal portion; centre of the abdomen sooty slate, gradually fading into dull buff on the crissum and to creamy white on the under tail-coverts; flank-feathers clear blue-grey on the centre, with a chestnut stripe on each side, and an outside margin of black, some of the feathers on the upper flanks vermiculated like the breast, and those on the lower flanks buffy ash vermiculated with blackish grey and margined with buffy chestnut; bill yellowish horn, paler at the base, nostrils orange-red; bare space round the eye and patch below the eye brilliant Indian yellow; iris dark brown; legs rich orange-red, claws dark horn. Total length about 26 inches; culmen 1·7, wing 11·8, tail 8·0, tarsus 2·6.

Adult female (Giawi-keny, 27th April). Differs from the male in being rather smaller in size and duller in colour; the crown is slightly marked with light buff and dark grey; the stripe on each side of the neck and the band on the lower throat are more buff in tinge, the latter vermiculated with grey, and both mottled with black; soft parts as in the male, but rather duller, the bare patch behind the eye smaller in extent; and the spur on the back of the tarsus is wanting. Total length 22½–23 inches, culmen 1·4, wing 10·7, tail 7·2, tarsus 2·25.

Mr. Danford gives me the following information respecting the range of the present species.

“This bird inhabits the high ranges of the Bulgardagh and Aladagh in the Eastern Taurus, and probably extends westwards to the Gök mountains near Adalia, and northward and eastward by the Antitaurus and Kermes Dagh. On Argæus, the highest mountain of the country, it certainly does not occur.

“It is strictly an Alpine bird living amongst rocks and snow, and rarely descends, even in mid winter, below the limit of the tree-growth, which may generally be taken as being at an elevation of about 6000 feet. It is very shy and wary. It pairs early in the year, and in favourable situations nests about the middle of April.”

I trust ere long to issue a figure of this Snow-Partridge in the ‘Birds of Europe;’ and Mr. Danford promises to furnish me with more details as to its habits &c. ere then.

Mr. Danford was fortunate enough to obtain the eggs of this

